

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-06 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00  
PA-02 PRS-01 DODE-00 HA-05 /036 W  
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P R 120933Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 268  
CINCPAC

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USIAC

FOR: SECSTATE EA/PHL; CU/EA  
USIA/IEA  
CINCPAC - USIA ADVISOR

E.O. 11652: NA  
SUBJ: WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS - JANUARY 6-12

### I. PSYCHOLOGICAL

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THE CODEL WOLFF VISIT WAS GIVEN SUBSTANTIAL AND UPBEAT INITIAL  
PLAY IN THE MEDIA. THE TWO CALLS ON PRESIDENT MARCOS WERE PLAYED  
PROMINENTLY ON THE FRONTPAGES AND THE COMMENTARY, WHILE LIGHT  
WELCOMED THEIR HAVING COME HERE TO SEE FOR THEMSELVES. IN THE  
END, HOWEVER, THINGS TURNED SOUR. FOLLOWING REPORTS IN THE  
SUNDAY PAPERS OF WOLFF'S SATURDAY DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE,  
IN WHICH HE SAID, INTERALIA, THAT THE PRESENCE OF THE BASES WAS  
BASED ON MUTUAL NEED AND THEREFORE THERE EXISTS A MUTUAL RESPON-  
SIBILITY TO MAINTAIN THEM.  
INTERPRETING THIS EXCLUSIVELY AS "BURDEN SHARING," SECRETARY  
OF DEFENSE ENRILE REACTED TO THIS COMMENT IN A SUNDAY STATEMENT  
ISSUED THROUGH THE PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY. ENRILE SAID THE BASES  
WERE HERE NOT TO PROTECT THE PHILIPPINES AS MUCH AS TO SERVE THE  
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NEEDS OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND IN FACT THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT  
SPENDS A SIZABLE AMOUNT EVERY YEAR JUST TO PROVIDE FOR THE KIND OF  
STABILITY WHICH ALLOWS UNHAMPERED USE OF THE BASES BY THE AMERI-  
CANS. THE COMMENTATORS AND EDITORIALISTS MOVED RIGHT IN--  
INTERESTINGLY ON THE SAME DAY AS THE ENRILE STORY WAS BEING  
PLAYED, INDICATING A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF ORCHESTRATION--WITH THE  
USUAL INDIGNATION ABOUT BEING TREATED AS LACKEYS AND VOICING

CONCERN FOR VIOLATIONS OF PHILIPPINE SOVEREIGNTY. THE DAMAGE, AT LEAST AS FAR AS CONGRESSMAN WOLFF'S HERETOFORE EXCELLENT REPUTATION HERE IS CONCERNED, MAY BE SERIOUS. COVERAGE OF THE HOLBROOKE VISIT, WHICH FOLLOWED ON THE HEELS OF THE WOLFF STAY, WAS LIGHT, PARTLY BECAUSE LITTLE WAS SAID ABOUT HIS MEETINGS, BUT ALSO NO DOUBT AS A RESULT OF THE MODD GENERATED BY THE WOLFF REMARK. UNFORTUNATELY, IN THE MIDST OF ALL OF THIS, A STORY APPEARED IN ONE OF THE PAPERS QUOTING THE FINANCE SECRETARY, CESAR VIRATA, AS HAVING "DEBUNKED" U.S. EMBASSY (AMBASSADOR NEWSOM'S ROTARY CLUB SPEECH) CLAIMS THAT IT WAS NO LONGER SEEKING PARITY FOR U.S. INVESTORS IN THE PHILIPPINES. THE EDITS ON THE WOLFF STATEMENT MANAGED IN SEVERAL INSTANCES TO WEAVE THIS INTO THEIR COMMENTS, IN ONE CASE CALLING IT AN ATTEMPT ON THE PART OF THE AMERICANS TO MAINTAIN ITS "STRANGE-HOLD" ON THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMY. WE TOOK OUR LUMPS THIS WEEK\*

PATT DERIAN'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MARCOS PROMPTED A STRONG DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE PHILIPPINES BY THE PRESIDENT WHICH WAS PROMINENTLY FRONT-PAGED BY ALL PAPERS. THERE WAS VERY LITTLE ENTERPRISING ON THE PART OF THE PRESS, RELYING ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY UPON THE PNA ACCOUNT OF THE MARCOS-DERIAN SESSION, AND QUOTING HIM, NOT HER. HOWEVER, INTEREST HAS BEEN EXPRESSED IN MS. DERIAN'S MEETINGS WITH OPPOSITION GROUPS AND WITH THE IMPRISONED AQUINO. DERIAN VISIT PROVIDED POST WITH EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO PROGRAM HER CBS VTR WITH A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY, AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE A UNCLASSIFIED

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VALUABLE PROGRAM TOOL.

## II. SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

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A. CODEL BACKSTOPPING -- THE POST'S PHOTOGRAPHIC AND OTHER AUDIO-VISUAL STAFF WERE FULLY OCCUPIED DURING THE WEEK SEEING TO MICROPHONES AND SOUND SYSTEMS AND COVERAGE OF THE CODEL WOLFF PRESS CONFERENCE (THREE CHANNELS USED OUR VIDEOCLIP) AND GENERAL ACTIVITIES OF THE GROUP, AS WELL AS THOSE OF CODELS STONE AND STRATTON. THE ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF ASSISTANT SECRETARIES HOLBROOKE AND DERIAN, AS WELL, REQUIRED POST COVERAGE.

B. YEARENDER ON INVESTMENTS PROFITABLE -- THE IPS YEAR-END REPORT ON U.S. INVESTMENTS IN ASIA WAS DISTRIBUTED AS A BACK-GROUNDER AND PICKED UP BY THE LEADING BUSINESS PUBLICATION, BUSINESS DAY, AND BY THE TIMES JOURNAL. THE PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY EARLIER RAN THE TEXT OF THE YEARENDER, ATTRIBUTING IT TO USIS.

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C. HARVARD HISTORIAN DEBUNKS CONVENTIONAL WISDOM -- RATED AS "PROBABLY THE MOST ARTICULATE AMERICAN ACADEMICIAN IN RECENT YEARS", VOLSPEAKER PROF. PETER STANELY, A HARVARD HISTORIAN CUT A WIDE SWATH THROUGH PHILIPPINE ACADEME, GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTORS IN FOUR DAYS OF INTENSIVE PROGRAMMING. HE LECTURED AT TJCC TO THE FACULTIES OF POLITICAL SCIENCE OF THE FOUR MAJOR UNIVERSITIES IN MANILA, HELD A TWO-HOUR DISCUSSION WITH THE HEAD OF THE POLITICAL AFFAIRS DIVISION OF MFA AND THREE DEPUTIES REPRESENTING JAPAN, CHINA AND VIETNAM; AND PRESENTED A FORMAL LECTURE TO THE HISTORY DEPT. OF UP AND THE POLYSCI ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES. HIS TOPIC, "A HISTORY OF US-PHILIPPINE RELATIONS", WON HIM A STRONG OVATION DESPITE A POWER BLACKOUT DURING THE Q & A SESSION. HIS PRESENTATION WAS OF SUCH A CALIBER, HE EARNED HIGH PRAISE FROM THE HOST OF UNDERGRADUATES IN THE BALCONY WHO TRADITIONALLY ARE THE HARSHTEST CRITICS AS WELL AS THE MORE CONSERVATIVE FACULTY MEMBERS. STANLEY'S CENTRAL THESIS THAT PHILIPPINE ELITES HAD MAINTAINED, AND INDEED INCREASED THEIR POWER BY COLLABORATING WITH THE AMERICAN COLONIAL GOVERNMENT, WAS A DIRECT CHALLENGE TO THE DEVIL THEORY OF AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT. BUT HIS IMPRESSIVE FAMILIARITY WITH THE PERIOD AND HIS REFUSAL TO GLOSS OVER THE EXCESSES OF THE AMERICAN PRESENCE SAVED HIS CREDIBILITY WITH AN AUDIENCE THAT MIGHT OTHERWISE HAVE BECOME HOSTILE.

THE ENSUING DEBATE AND EXCHANGE WERE INDICATIVE OF THE RES-  
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PECT HE COMMANDED EVEN THOUGH HIS THESIS WAS NOT ENTIRELY ACCEPTED. IT IS DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE A BETTER EXAMPLE OF OUR SUPPORT FOR ARTS AND HUMANITIES OBJECTIVE.

D. AMSPEC CLERK'S SHOW -- "PIERRE CLERK: TAPESTRIES, PAINTINGS, GRAPHICS" OPENED ON SCHEDULE (WITH ALL FIFTEEN PIECES, THANKS TO USIS HONG KONG'S EFFORTS) JANUARY 6TH AT THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM. APPROXIMATELY NINETY INVITED GUESTS WERE ON HAND TO VIEW THE SHOW AND MEET THE ARTIST AT THE OPENING RECEPTION. THE REACTION WAS VERY FAVORABLE AND THE MUSEUM STAFF REPORTS A STEADY FLOW OF VISITORS DURING THE SHOW'S FIRST WEEK. MEDIA COVERAGE, INCLUDING A POST PRODUCED VTR CLIP OF THE OPENING CEREMONIES HAS BEEN EXTENSIVE.

AMSPEC CLERK SPOKE AT TWO MANILA UNIVERSITIES, THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM, THE DESIGN CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND USIS-CEBU DURING HIS PHILIPPINE PROGRAM. THE THRUST OF HIS REMARKS CENTERED ABOUT HIS PERSONAL EXPERIENCES AS AN ARTIST AND THE BURGEONING CORPORATE AND GOVERNMENT SUPPORT OF THE ARTS IN THE U.S. AND THE POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE ARTS IN THESE AREAS.

E. BERNARD BRAGG AND THE DEAF -- BERNARD BRAGG'S FOUR DAYS IN MANILA WERE "THE MOST EXCITING THING THAT HAS HAPPENED FOR THE DEAF COMMUNITY HERE IN A LONG TIME," IN THE WORDS OF AN ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF. AFTER AN ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOMING PROGRAM BY ALL LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE DEAF, BRAGG CALLED ON SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF, APPEARED ON THE "STUDENT CANTEEN" TV PROGRAM, AND PERFORMED TO A LARGE CROWD (APPROXIMATELY 700) AT THE OPEN-AIR RIZAL AUDITORIUM.

BRAGG'S MOVING PRESENTATION WAS AT ONCE ENTERTAINING AND INSTRUCTIVE IN SENSITIZING THE AUDIENCE'S HEARING MEMBERS TO THE NEED OF DEAF CHILDREN.

BRAGG REPRESENTS WELL THE INCREASING AWARENESS OF AMERICAN SOCIETY IN THE AREA OF EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL PEOPLE,  
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INCLUDING THE HANDICAPPED. HIS FLEXIBILITY AND WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE ARE REMARKABLE AND DEMONSTRATE A SINCERE COMMITMENT TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS AMONG ALL PEOPLE.  
DAWSON

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## Message Attributes

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